

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        1. A system for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an  
2 annotation, comprising:  
3              a scanner;  
4              a document analysis and processing software component in  
5 communication with said scanner; and  
6              automatic annotation logic in communication with said document  
7 analysis and processing software component, said automatic annotation logic  
8 configured to detect a region in a scanned image, said region including  
9 handwriting, and save said handwriting as an annotation in a document  
10 generated from said scanned image.

1        2. The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is  
2 selected by a user of said scanner.

1        3. The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is  
2 automatically determined by said document analysis and processing software  
3 component.

1        4. The system of claim 1, wherein said region including handwriting is  
2 on a notation on a page.

1        5. The system of claim 1, wherein said handwriting is written directly  
2        on a page.

1        6. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting recognition  
2        logic configured to recognize said handwriting.

1        7. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2        removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from a  
3        preview image created from said scanned image.

1        8. The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2        removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from said  
3        document generated from said scanned image.

1        9. The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2        removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from a  
3        preview image created from said scanned image.

1        10. The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation  
2        removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from said  
3        document generated from said scanned image.

1        11. A method for saving handwriting in a scanned image as an  
2 annotation, the method comprising the steps of:  
3                scanning an image in a scanner;  
4                detecting a region in said scanned image, said region including  
5 handwriting; and  
6                saving said handwriting in said detected region as an annotation in  
7 a document generated from said scanned image.

1        12. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is selected by a user of said scanner.

1        13. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is automatically determined.

1        14. The method of claim 11, wherein said region including handwriting  
2 is on a notation on a page.

1        15. The method of claim 11, wherein said handwriting is written  
2 directly on a page.

1        16. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of recognizing  
2 said handwriting using handwriting recognition logic.

1        17. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the  
2        appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned  
3        image.

1        18. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of removing the  
2        appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned  
3        image.

1        19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the  
2        appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned  
3        image.

1        20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of removing the  
2        appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned  
3        image.

1        21. A computer readable medium having a program for saving  
2        handwriting in a scanned image as an annotation, the program including logic  
3        for performing the steps of:  
4                scanning an image in a scanner;  
5                detecting a region in said scanned image, said region  
6        including handwriting; and  
7                saving said handwriting in said detected region as an  
8        annotation in a document generated from said scanned image.

1        22. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including  
2        handwriting is selected by a user of said scanner.

1        23. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including  
2        handwriting is automatically determined.

1        24. The program of claim 21, wherein said region including  
2        handwriting is on a notation on a page.

1        25.    The program of claim 21, wherein said handwriting is written  
2        directly on a page.

1        26.    The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        perform the step of recognizing said handwriting using handwriting recognition  
3        logic.

1        27.    The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from  
3        said scanned image.

1        28.    The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from  
3        said scanned image.

1        29. The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said  
3        scanned image.

1        30. The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to  
2        remove the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said  
3        scanned image.